

### **Actions of Council**

The Council of the American Association for State and Local History met on Thursday, December 11, 2025 via Zoom. AASLH Chair Christy Coleman led the meeting, and the Council took the following actions:

1. Voted to approve the Minutes of the September 10, 2025 Council Meeting.
2. Reviewed the first quarter's financial dashboard for FY2026, which showed membership revenue was up compared to the same quarter of the previous year and that revenue from the conference in Cincinnati was lower than expected. Council discussed cost-saving measures that staff had laid out in a contingency plan for the year, which will be visited at various milestone points of FY2026.
3. Voted to approve Staff Safety Plan to promote the health, safety, and well-being of all AASLH employees, contractors, interns, and volunteers representing the organization, both in the AASLH office and at association-sponsored events, such as the Annual Conference. The plan will be added to the existing AASLH Employee Handbook.
4. Heard a staff report on progress to date on selecting a new Association Management System (AMS, or comprehensive membership database).
5. Heard update on plans for the History and Democracy initiative.
6. Discussed the staff proposal to work more closely together with Made By Us, the foremost national group centering youth voice, future-proofing historical institutions, and cultivating trust, belonging, and civic participation. Agreed that staff should continue exploring this opportunity.
7. Agreed to meet in-person as a Council twice per year (March and at the conference in September), twice virtually (June and December), and to clarify and expand the travel support policy for members of Council who do not have institutional assistance.
8. Voted to adopt the Statement of Standards and Ethics which the Standards & Ethics Committee had revised with input from the Diversity & Inclusion and other committees. The statement was last revised in 2018.
9. Voted to adopt revised criteria for the Award of Distinction that focus on procedures and transparency of the program and how it is shared with the AASLH membership. The award is given infrequently and recognizes long and very distinguished individual service to the field of state and local history and to AASLH.